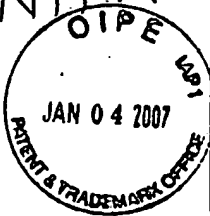


1/30/07
RS



I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to:
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(Michael J. Doherty)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 3733

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-441 CONT CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Ralph et al.

Application No.: 10/667,034

: Group Art Unit: 3733

Filed: September 22, 2003

: Examiner: E. C. Robert

For: POROUS INTERVERTEBRAL
DISTRACTION SPACERS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed June 26, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: